James Pearl
335 South Market St.,
Frederick, Md. 21701

1/7/92

Dear Jim,

So, we are landesleiter! I was born a month before you and only what for most people would be an easy walk away, between 19 and 20, Dauphin and York. The Strwaberry Mansion area was a fine one, I had a great uncle who had a Turkish bath on as I recall Dauphin just west of 29th Street. My father had uncles and aunts near Memorial Hall and we used to go there in good weather by the park trolley. And do I remember Robin Hood Dell!

I've not been in Phila. for years but I knew it only as a lovely city. We moved to Wilmington when I was quite young but I was there very often until I went to Washington in about 1934-5.

I was never overseas in OSS. First I was in the Presentation Branch as a soldier and after medical discharge I was a civilian in the Latin American Division. I was never a spook. I was an analyst with a few sort-of troubble-shooting invetigations assigned.

I recall your pieces in the local papers and considered them excellent.

You are in visuals, and I'm reminded. When I was in Presentation among the artists I remember from that part of the shop were Henry Koerner and Eiro Saarinen. If we get together sometime, which I'd like, remind me to tell you ~~and Houry~~ about Henry and IFF, then a new deviee.

The part of that shop I was in was mostly of Hollywood types.

I'd like to chat more but I'm tired and overloaded with the time Stoning Oliver is taking and with responding to questions about his atrocity of a movie. (I started the criticisms of that project, but that is a long story. It was intended, your words, to be a bright light in a sea of darkness.) Press inquiries are taking much time. Two German reporters were here for a day and just left.

In recent months in talking to younger people I've been telling them how things used to be when we were young, how fine the trolley service was and they know nothing about that it is strange to them - and other things you remember that ~~does~~ did interest them.

The Frederick Magazine story is an outgrowth of their asking me to write a story about the Oliver Stone movie. They liked it but actually feared that he might file a frivolous lawsuit that could ruin them. So they decided on the interview instead.

Thanks for your letter. With all best wish, and apologies for taking the paper from the wrong place and getting the wrong paper,

Harold